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MINUTES OF THE SIXTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

6 January 1956

Present

Members: John Lacey, State

Richard Bauer, Army

John S. Shearer, Jr., Navy

Florence Bermbach, NSA

Chairman

25X1A

Consultants:

25X1A

1. The 62nd meeting convened at 1400 hours. The minutes of the 61st meeting were approved with the following emendations and comments:

25X1A

a. CIA: stated the word "technical" should be changed to "technological" in statement regarding the 25X1A responsibilities of CIA.

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- b. NSA, was erroneously omitted from the listing of members present at the 61st meeting.
- c. Mr. Bauer asked that the next to the last sentence in Paragraph 6, Page 3, be deleted and the following sentence added: "FDD is producing unique material which is otherwise unobtainable."
- d. Mr. Bauer introduced a written statement of Scientific and Technical requirements which is attached to these minutes.
- e. The Chairman requested that the "Proposed Program to Meet Requirements on Bloc Scientific and Technical Publications," dated 16 December 1955, be disregarded in toto, as this program is being rewritten.

The Chairman stated that early next week the draft recommendations of the Subcommittee on Soviet Bloc Exploitation will be distributed to the members for their review. This paper will outline specific categories by country, which need more coverage according to the requirements of the intelligence community than can be met by existing facilities.

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Mr. Lacey felt that in keying the scientific program to DCID 4/5 some extenuation of meaning had been applied in keying certain parts of the program to Category I. He felt that by the same token some of State's non-scientific requirements could also have been keyed to Category I. Actually, he felt the scientific program was best keyed to Category II, and as it seemed that virtually everything fell in Category II, this obviously was no criterion at all. He continued that objectively State Department has a wide range of priorities, all of which could, if necessary, be placed in Category II. Mr. Lacey called attention to the fact that in both the second and the current review a good deal of material has been eliminated which, as a result of committee findings, was of lesser importance, so that now a statement of what can and can not be done is strictly a statement of limitation and the category of things which can not be done is not necessarily those of lesser importance.

The Chairman stated that DCID 4/5 could only be considered one of several criteria used by the Committee in arriving at its recommendations. This will be stated in the draft recommendations in lieu of keying.

2. Western World Program

State: Mr. Lacey stated that generally he discussed the review throughout the OIR offices and there was general agreement on the utility of FDD's program and as well an agreement on its potentialities. While the present program still left something to be desired they nevertheless were in full accord that the prospects of looking forward to more useful FDD coverage were more hopeful. A great deal of the Free World program as well as the Communist Bloc program bears on NIS work in State's specific requirements. A notable addition to State's responsibility is that recently under NIS there has been introduced a special need to cover international Communist developments outside the Bloc and in response State is increasing its coverage of Communist developments outside the Bloc and is even more interested in certain aspects of FDD Western World Program. It is a new responsibility on State's part and FDD can help meet that responsibility. Mr. Lacey did not want to leave the impression that FDD servicing of State is simply for NIS, as State is greatly concerned with the implementation of political programs in the Free World, particularly in the Near East and Southeast Asia. As for the manpower assignments, Mr. Lacey thought they were generally all right in relation to the over-all program and generally reflect the specific interests of State. There is no indication that more manpower is needed. The format on all of these program reports is acceptable. Mr. Lacey added that some offices had expressed the opinion that there was a tendency for the FDD products to be sort of bookish, and that there was too much emphasis on quantity and not enough on quality. A little more coverage in depth on specific topics as against this rather fragmentary approach on isolated items would be helpful. Most consumers

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in State would be happier if products were aimed more at specific items. The "Selected Briefs from the International Press" have been of particular interest to State, and the analysts are quite enthusiastic about that product. One analyst particularly liked the translation which has been done on a recent article on esthetics of literary criticisms. This had been of enormous interest in comparing it with the Soviet press for double meaning and he would like FDD to do more work on the selected Communist critiques.

The Chairman stated at this point that FDD will put out a translation on the USSR's "Political Economy," possibly by the end of the month. It consists of 1150 draft pages and covers Soviet views of the capitalist concept and the Socialist development of the Soviet Union. There will be ample copies available for the community.

Mr. Lacey continued that with the added responsibility for covering Communist developments outside the Bloc, State would be very interested in this product.

He added, regarding the Near East, that he has no specific comment. On Western Europe, he said that the reports continue to be very useful. The Index to "Le Monde" is in need of some improvement and the consumers would like to have it put out a little faster. The topics covered could be more thoroughly utilized if the report was put out something on the order of the outline of "La Stampa." Regarding Latin America, Mr. Lacey said that the analyst felt that only Bolivia had been well covered to date but that generally the quality of coverage could be improved if the coverage on Communist movements and Bloc trade were listed as highest priority of the several topics requested by State.

The Chairman said that Communist movements and Bloc trade are covered in "Selected Briefs."

Mr. Lacey had no special feeling on South Korea other than the fact that it was felt that most of the South Korea effort should be given to North Korea. He felt, however, that a part of a body should be held for the coverage of certain more important subjects on South Korea. Mr. Lacey said that regarding Japan, for the coming months State would be interested in coverage on economics of the Ryukyus.

said that as a matter of operation procedure FDD had 25X1A never considered the Ryukyus as a part of its Japan coverage.

> Mr. Lacey stated that there is a request for Japanese literature on the topic. The Ryukyus are part of the responsibility of State's Japan desk.

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Continuing, Mr. Lacey said that the Indonesian products were found extremely useful. Quality would be immensely improved if there were more rigorous selection. There is a rather ambitious NIS starting on Indonesia which will increase its importance to State. Regarding the Philippines, status quo, no comment.

Army: Mr. Bauer said that in general, since the last review, Army's requirements have increased with some modifications but are -specifically still the same. On the Near East, Army has the highest praise for the work that FDD personnel have done. The analysts on Israel have written a commendation on a comprehensive study on "Israeli Settlements." The comments from the people in the Arab section have been equally favorable. Right now Army is interested in developments in Egypt. Army has a requirement on North Africa on order of battle information. On Western Europe there is still no outstanding requirement. The desire there is to submit a specific request when Army has a particular problem. Army prefers to see -the manpower devoted to coverage of Soviet-Satellites. Regarding Latin America, coverage is still desired on Bolivia, Paraguay and the Dominican Republic. Army still has no requirement on South Korea and Japan. On Indochina, Indonesia, and Thailand, Mr. Bauer will report at the next meeting. There is a question whether the Communist coverage in "Selected Briefs" should not preferably be reported in the area reports. Army thinks it would be more desirable,

Mr. Lacey said that State would like to endorse that.

There followed a discussion on the possibility of splitting up the "Selected Briefs." Among the suggestions offered were to combine Sections 1, 3, and 4 into a periodic report primarily of interest to political analysts; 2 as a separate report, "International Conferences," and the remaining sections into a third report, primarily of interest to the economists. Some members preferred this possibility. The Chairman said that FDD could and would report the information in any form that would be most useful to the members. Discussion was carried over for the next meeting.

- 3. The Chairman distributed the first issue of an FDD scheduled report titled, "Soviet Activities in the Arctic and Antarctic," OO-W 31601.
- 4. The agenda for the next meeting will be the continuation of the Western World review and in the interval FDD will draw up the draft for Recommendations on the Soviet Bloc.
- 5. The meeting adjourned at 1540 hours. The next meeting will be held 20 January 1956 at 1400 hours in Room 2125 M Building.

Attachment:

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